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**Statement submitted for the Record  
by Senator Robert F. Bennett  
before the  
Senate Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation  
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Mr Chairman, on September 18, 1996, President Clinton announced the creation of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, taking 1.7 million acres from the State of Utah under the authority of the Antiquities Act. The process by which the monument was put together was entirely closed to any elected official from my state. No one from the State of Utah who holds elected office was allowed to make comments or be involved in the process of creating the monument. We now know, however, from the documentation sent to me by the Department of Interior and the Council of Environmental Quality, that members of what is called the environmental community were involved in writing the presidential proclamation. Out of this closed process came the national monuments, and with it, considerable antagonism and disappointment on the part of many people in Utah.

I was personally assured by Leon Panetta that there would be protections for the rights of ordinary citizens written into the monument's management plan. Mr. Panetta outlined those protections to me, and I wrote them down. Then, when the President appeared on national television, I followed my list and saw that he was going down the same list. That is, he made exactly the same promises that Mr. Panetta had made me as to the way things would be handled in the monument.

The purpose of the Grand Staircase-Escalante Resource Protection Act is to codify the promises the President made when he created the monument. Let me give an example of what I mean.

On September 18, President Clinton said: "Families will be able to use this canyon as they always have. The land will remain open for multiple uses, including hunting, fishing, hiking, camping and grazing." Under the Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA), hunting, fishing, hiking and camping are just one multiple use defined as "recreation." But FLPMA also defines "multiple use" to include other activities such as oil and gas exploration and development, mineral exploration, timber and off-road vehicle use. Consequently, I took the definition that is in the FLPMA handbook produced by the Department of the Interior and reproduced it in my legislation. I made no attempt to insert my judgement as to what "multiple uses" means.